

Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5302

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E. O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, UK, CZ

SUBJECT: BERNARD LEVIN ON CHNOUPEK VISIT

1. BERNARD LEVIN'S COLUMN IN SEPTEMBER 8 ISSUE OF LONDON "TIMES" IS DEVOTED TO NEXT WEEK'S VISIT OF CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER BOHUSLAV CHNOUPEK. ARTICLE'S TENOR IS INDICATED BY ITS TITLE, "PERFIDIOUS ALBION'S WELCOME FOR A QUISLING."

2. LEVIN CASTIGATES CHNOUPEK AS "A HACK WHO REPRESENTS NOTHING AND NOBODY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA" AND WHO IS "KNOWN TO HIS SOVIET MASTERS AS A PARTICULARLY SERVILE AND OBEDIENT FIGURE, WILLING TO DO ANYTHING HE WAS TOLD AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF HIS COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE."

3. RECALLING BRITAIN'S BETRAYAL OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1938, LEVIN ALSO ATTACKS HMG FOR HAVING INVITED CHNOUPEK TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO UK AND CAUSTICALLY OBSERVES, "... SOME OF THOSE LABOUR MP'S WHO WOULD BOYCOTT WITH A GREAT SHOW OF RIGHTEOUSNESS ANY FUNCTION AT WHICH ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WERE PRESENT WILL JOSTLE AND FAWN TO GET INVITATIONS TO THE RECEPTIONS AT WHICH (CHNOUPEK) WILL BE ENTERTAINED, NOT TO

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MENTION THE FREE BOOZE AVAILABLE THEREAT."

4. DEPARTMENT AND PRAGUE WILL RECALL THAT LEVIN HAS BEEN STIRRED TO SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS OF OUTRAGE ON OCCASIONS OF PREVIOUS HIGH-LEVEL UK-CSSR VISITS AND THAT GOC HAS BEEN LESS THAN AMUSED BY THESE ATTACKS.

5. COPIES OF LEVIN COLUMN POUCHED TO EUR/EE (BROWN) AND PRAGUE (FROWICK).
ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

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